

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the non-final Official Action mailed **December 7, 2004**. Reconsideration of the application in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

By the forgoing amendment, various minor typographical errors in the specification have been corrected. No amendments are made to the originally-filed claims. New claims 22-31 have been added. Thus, claims 1-31 are currently pending for the Examiner's consideration.

The sole issue raised in the outstanding Office Action is a rejection of claims 1-21 as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) by U.S. Patent No. 5,579,446 to Naik et al. ("Naik"). For at least the following reasons, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites:

A printer driver stored on a computer-readable medium comprising:
an interface configured to receive print job data; and
a print job formatting routine which notes one or more regions within a print job derived from said print job data and further specifies a particular print quality level at which each such region is then printed.

The teachings of Naik appear to be relevant to the claims, but actually are not once the terminology used in Naik is properly understood. In contrast to claim 1, Naik does not teach or suggest "one or more regions within a print job" and "a particular print quality level at which each such region is then printed."

With reference to Fig. 4, Naik teaches the standard three levels of "Print Quality" (66), i.e., "High Quality" (66), "Normal" (67) and "Fast" (68). Naik does not ever teach or suggest that particular print quality levels are applied to various regions within a print job. Rather, Naik teaches setting a single print quality level for print job. Then, depending on the

quality level set, Naik teaches that different color correction and color rendition options will be applied to photographs or photo-like objects in the print job. According to Naik,

Different print-quality modes 65 in the printer invoke 11, 12 different print-rendering options 21, 22 for a particular object to be printed. In the exemplary embodiment, a printer control 65 automatically invokes an error-diffusion halftoning technique 22 for photo images 41 whenever a high-quality mode 66 is designated, and automatically invokes a dither halftoning technique 21 for photo images 41 whenever a normal 67 or fast 68 print mode is designated.
(Col. 5, lines 57-65).

Thus, Naik only teaches a single print quality mode assigned to an entire print job, with different handling of photo images depending on the print quality mode selected. Naik does not teach or suggest “a print job formatting routine which notes one or more regions within a print job derived from said print job data and further specifies a particular print quality level at which each such region is then printed.”

“A claim is anticipated [under 35 U.S.C. § 102] only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987) (emphasis added). See M.P.E.P. § 2131. Therefore, for at least this reason, the rejection of claims 1-8 based on Naik should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Independent claim 9 recites: “A method of printing documents comprising printing designated regions within a print job at different print quality levels.” As demonstrated above, Naik fails to teach or suggest a method of printing regions within a print job at different print quality levels. Naik only teaches selecting one of three possible print quality levels for each print job. (Naik, Fig. 4, elements 65-68).

Again, “[a] claim is anticipated [under 35 U.S.C. § 102] only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single

prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987) (emphasis added). See M.P.E.P. § 2131. Therefore, for at least this reason, the rejection of claims 9-14 based on Naik should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Independent claim 15 recites:

A computer system comprising:
a host computer;
an interface on said host computer for connecting a printing device to said host computer; and
a printer driver stored on said host computer for formatting print job data from said host computer to a printing device;
wherein said printer driver comprises a print job formatting routine which notes one or more regions within a print job derived from print job data and further specifies a particular print quality level at which each such region is to be printed.

As demonstrated above, Naik fails to teach or suggest, a print driver “which notes one or more regions within a print job derived from print job data and further specifies a particular print quality level at which each such region is to be printed.” Naik only teaches a single print quality level set for an entire print job. Thus, Naik fails to teach or suggest all the features of claim 15.

Again, “[a] claim is anticipated [under 35 U.S.C. § 102] only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987) (emphasis added). See M.P.E.P. § 2131. Therefore, for at least this reason, the rejection of claims 15-21 based on Naik should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Dependent claim 5 recites: “wherein said user input routine is configured to display movement of a cursor on said WYSIWYG display in response to physical movement of said

mouse, said movement of said cursor being used by said user input routine to define said one or more regions within said print job.” (emphasis added). Similarly, claim 11 recites a method including “displaying a WYSIWYG display of said print job;” and “receiving user input defining one or more of said regions within said print job using said WYSIWYG display.” And, dependent claim 18 recites a printer driver comprising: “a WYSIWYG display routine for generating a WYSIWYG display of a print job;” and “a user input routine for receiving user input defining said one or more regions within a print job using said WYSIWYG display.”

In contrast, Naik does not teach or suggest that a user defines a region within a print job to which a particular print quality level is assigned. Naik does not teach or suggest any means or method of receiving user input to define or designate particular regions within a print job. For at least this additional reason, the rejection of claims 5, 11, 12, 18 and 19 should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

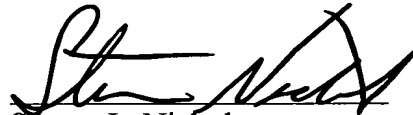
Dependent claim 12 further recites “specifying said one or more regions within said print job by moving a cursor driven by a mouse over said WYSIWYG display.” As demonstrated above, Naik does not teach or suggest allowing a user to define a region of a print job to which a particular print quality level is assigned. Accordingly, Naik also does not teach or suggest moving a cursor over a display with a mouse to so identify a print-quality region. For at least this additional reason, the rejection of claim 12 based on Naik should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The newly-added claims are thought to recite subject matter that is not taught or suggested by the prior art of record for at least the same reasons as given above with respect

to the original claims of the application. Consequently, examination and allowance of the newly-added claims is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, the present application is thought to be clearly in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the application in light of these remarks is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions which could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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DATE: 3 March 2005

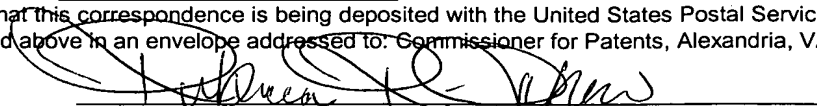
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